

## **District III Advisory Board Minutes**

[www.wichita.gov](http://www.wichita.gov)

**July 20, 2005  
7:00 p.m.**

**Colvin Neighborhood City Hall  
2820 S. Roosevelt**

The District III Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 2820 S. Roosevelt. The District III City Council member, Jim Skelton, eleven (11) District Advisory Board members and one youth representative were in attendance. Nine (9) city staff were present and approximately sixteen (16) members of the public, most of whom signed in.

### **Members Present**

Teresa Cook  
Jim Gulick  
William Ward  
Joann Hartig  
Charlotte Foster  
Judy Dillard  
John Kemp  
Matt Foley  
Dewayne Kitchen  
Gerry Myers  
Jesse Sheffield  
Danny Harshbarger – youth representative  
CM Jim Skelton

### **Staff Present**

Kendall Niquette  
Joe Yeager  
Jim Armour  
Steve King  
Gary Janzen  
Jay Newton  
Officer Schell  
Christy Askew  
Vicki Mork

### **Members Absent**

### **Guests**

See page 8

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **Call to Order**

**Council Member Skelton** called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. He began by introducing County Commissioner Tim Norton and School Board Member Sarah Skelton, who is also his wife.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Foster (Dillard) moved that the minutes from the July 6, 2005 meeting be approved. Motion was approved unanimously with 11:0 vote.

**Action: Received and filed.**

### **Public Agenda**

#### **1. Scheduled Items**

No items were scheduled

**Recommended Action: Provide comments/take appropriate action.**

#### **2. Off Agenda Items**

No items were presented.

**Recommended Action: Provide comments/take appropriate action.**

### **Staff Presentations**

#### **3. Community Policing**

Police Officers were not present at this time to report on issues.

**Recommended Action: Receive and file.**

#### **4. Finance Budget Department**

**Joe Yeager and Kendall Niquette** presented on the 2006 2007 Proposed Budget in Brief, the DAB members had previously received a copy in their packets.

The budget presentation began by showing that the City of Wichita compares well to other peer cities in a number of areas. Wichita city government is very efficient. Reviewing data evaluated by the International City/County Managers Association Center for Performance Management shows that Wichita compares well with other similar municipalities and provides low maintenance costs for administrative facilities; has fast response times to fires; does an excellent job of maintaining roads; has a low number of employee grievances; a responsive Information Technology department; and an efficient library system and Police Department. Comparing local performance statistics with selected benchmarks is an effective method of evaluating municipal operations.

Wichita also has a lower mill levy than 16 other peer cities, but eight other cities with lower mill levy than Wichita not only impose a local county sales tax but also a local city tax. The total City mill levy is 31.828 with 21.828 earmarked for General Fund revenues and 10 mills earmarked for the debt service fund.

The city operates with two budgets, Capital Improvement Project budget and the Operating Budget. The later is the current focus 2006 total expenditures are set at \$450,258,960. The budget process is underway which means it can be amended.

Many funds comprise the City's revenue sources. **Yeager** explained the General Fund represents the largest operational fund at 40% of the total City budget. This includes expenditures for public safety, public works, parks and recreation, health, libraries, local property tax subsidies for transit. These general government activities are the principal programs supported by this fund. The General Fund is one of two major funds that rely upon ad valorem property tax as a major revenue source. City Budget increases are below inflation.

In conclusion **Niquette** reviewed mill levy formula used by the City saying the average City tax is about \$344 per year, with citizens receiving good value for their expenditure. Wichita remains below the average when compared with 26 other cities of similar size.

**DAB Member Foster** said more money is needed in the Environmental Health Services Department as more neighborhood inspectors are needed to do more neighborhood enforcement activities. **Niquette** responded saying additional funds were added to the budget for nuisance abatement, condemnation and board up but the funds are capped by agreement with Wichita Area Builders Association (WABA).

**Foley** referred to Capital Improvement Project budget (CIP) stating Hilltop neighborhood interested in sidewalks and lighting and the money available in CIP to update neighborhood plan was not needed for that as the residents of Hilltop know where utilities need to be. **CM Skelton** said he would talk to Foley about this matter. **Yeager** explained the CIP budget was separate from the Operating budget, which is the topic for discussion at this time.

**Jody Bennett, 1709 E 48<sup>th</sup> Street** stated the City is in error by partnering with WABA, when it limits the City's ability to clean up neighborhoods. She says the City needs far more code enforcement than we're receiving. Every neighborhood needs help. **Skelton** says he's working on this issue. **Skelton** closed discussion.

**Recommended Action: Provide comments.**

### **3. Community Policing**

**Officer Schell, 32 Beat** reported on an identified burglary trend and urged the formation of Neighborhood Watch groups. He asked the public to report any suspicious activities. **Foley** asked where and when the burglaries were occurring. **Officer Schell** said there was no pattern; the burglaries were happening all over town and at all times of day and night.

**Myers** reported a vehicle on the street near his house with no tag and a busted windshield. The car was given a three day notice tag on the street and the owners moved it to the driveway, he requests the inoperable car be dealt with.

**Recommended Action: Receive and file.**

**7. Wichita Police Department**

**Loud Music Enforcement Efforts**

**CM Skelton** recognized Jim Yancy, 847 S Belmont who is interested in curtailing loud music from cars in his neighborhood. **Skelton** explained WPD and OCI are developing a plan to address the problem. He apologized as no COW staff person was here to present on this issue. **Sheffield** reported on his efforts to sue a landlord in his neighborhood resulted in compliance. **Kemp** reported he had two younger families living across the street from him who played very loud music and he used the WPD effectively. **Kemp** said WPD will not respond to calls if citizen does not want to be contacted, however the officer can contact by telephone.

**Action taken: Receive and file.**

**5. Public Works**

**Jim Armour appeared along with Steve King, Engineer, for Petition improvements and Gary Janzen, Chief design engineer.** Handouts were provided. Armour explained improvements like new streets, curb and gutter or storm water drainage implemented as a result of a petition are assessed 100% to property owners but before that happens 51% of property owners must agree on the improvements. He presented a hypothetical example for illustration. In the area between 47<sup>th</sup> Street, MacArthur, I – 135 and Hydraulic most of the streets are not paved, have no curb and gutter and storm water drainage is a big problem. Public Works suggested ordering in storm water drainage system, which would cost an estimated \$150 per year for 20 years. This would lay the groundwork for paving the streets later on. They could be paved piecemeal or en masse with some economics of scale if it is all done at the same time.

**Dillard** said she thought that 30 years ago a paving project was proposed for this area with out curbs and gutters and it supposedly passed with 51% support but never implemented. She asked if the funding for widening of Hydraulic included storm water drainage that accommodated the neighborhood run off.

**Kitchen** asked why the storm drain that was installed in front of his house at 2844 Davidson was set up like it was? **Foley** asked about Hilltop and Planeview areas - can they be set up for additional paving and drainage including drive easements. **Armour** says if the easement were private the cost would be assessed to property owner, if it were a public easement then the City would be assessed. On petition improvements 100% of the costs are assessed to adjacent property owners

**Jody Bennett, 1709 E 48<sup>th</sup> Street South** said recent construction had affected the approach at her house and created bad drainage problem. She brought picture to show Public Works. **Armour** said he would discuss it with her after the meeting.

**Wesley Provines, 1601 E. 45<sup>th</sup> Street South** said he carried the petition for paving 45<sup>th</sup> Street South. It was turned in two years ago and is just now happening. He wondered why it has taken so long? **Armour** explained there were many issues that had to be resolved. Hidden Glen subdivision had problems and the acquisition of property for the project was a slow process. The project was bid and it came in within budget and is going to be happening.

**Provines** asked if COW would consider putting in roads that didn't meet city standards, without curb and gutter like the roads for Pine Bay development. **Armour** says they don't do that unless the lots are much larger. Pine Bay had some well-defined ditches, which is not the case in this neighborhood. This area has drainage issues that must be addressed before roads can be brought in.

**Foley** asked how Hilltop would go about getting sidewalks? **Armour** says COW policy allows sidewalks along both sides of arterial streets but both sides are usually assessed. **Skelton** says Hilltop CDBG area funds could be made available.

**Bennett** asked how long the assessment would run? Was told 18 years or more. She asked about deferments for assessments. **Armour** replied that those deferment policies still in place but the income guidelines are very low and haven't been adjusted for 10-15 years. Council establishes the guidelines. **Skelton** asked **Armour** to contact him about that issue the following day.

**Gulick** asked if homeowners could remove a non-connected sidewalk segment damaged by tree roots. **Armour** said that the City Attorney recently granted permission in a similar situation. **Armour** said this issue should be brought to his attention and he'd entertain the request. **Elena Ingle, 3608 Meadow Ln** asked if City owned property is assessed for the cost of side-walks and street improvements. **Armour** said yes, the City pays.

**Recommended Action: Receive and file.**

#### **6. MAPD Review of South Wichita-Haysville Plan**

**Christy Askew, Advance Plan** said the southern areas prior to 1958 not under City and County jurisdiction. Sewer service still not serving many homes in the area and is a big issue. Much of the area is regarded as low income, which means CDBG funds, can help with implementation of the projects but the impetus must be residential and business area driven. Streets, sewer, and water can be brought in with these funds. **Christy** referred to the map. Says it's new updated version.

**Council Member Skelton** asked **County Commissioner Tim Norton** if he had any comments. **Commissioner Norton** said he thought the south side was underserved by both Sedgwick County and City of Wichita. Haysville has momentum going but it hasn't spread to southwest area of Wichita. **Norton** thinks this section has been forgotten. The good news

is the intersection and surrounding area of 47<sup>th</sup> and Broadway has been fixed on the radar of KDOT. The current egress and ingress on Emporia and 47<sup>th</sup> Street south is awkward to negotiate and it stifles development. He will continue to advocate for improvements and partner with Council Members Skelton and Gray.

It's very important that the Southside begin to think better of itself. Haysville completed their rail separation and it is fueling revitalization of their City. He is a big supporter of the Southside. Unfortunately the South Wichita Haysville Area Plan doesn't flow over to Planeview and that area of south Wichita.

**Askeu** urged the South Area Neighborhood Association to contact her when they want to move on this. **Dillard** says there are big areas that are not developed that back up to turnpike. Improvements to the roads and intersection of 47<sup>th</sup> and Broadway would improve access to this property. **Skelton** is enthusiastic about working with the SANA group. **Myers** commented his oldest son moved his family and company to Haysville. The business is located in the industrial park built close to turnpike and is working out well.

**Sheffield** representing the South City Community Association, agreed with Commissioner Norton. He believes the South area is underserved. He touched on the need for a South City Fire Station. **Jody Bennett** said progress in the area would depend on effectively working with State, Federal, City and County government entities. **Skelton** and Tim Norton want to work with State Senator representatives. **Sheffield** said his neighborhood association thinks Council Member Skelton is doing a great job.

**Recommended Action: Receive and file.**

### **Board Agenda**

#### **7. Updates, Issues and Reports**

**Skelton** says the August DAB meetings may be held at the WATER Center, 101 E Pawnee. Vicki Mork is checking into it. He also reported his first breakfast meeting to be held on August 27<sup>th</sup> somewhere in District III but the location has not been determined yet. It will be from 10-11:30 a.m. and there will be a guest speaker followed by questions and answers. He plans to feature Mary Kay Vaughn, Director of Housing and Community Services for the first meeting. He thinks neighborhood association presidents, DAB members and active citizens of District III would benefit from attending. Everyone is invited. He provided a Fire Station update -- the City plans to build two new stations. Various options being explored including possible cooperation between City and County. **Skelton** has Finance Department working on a document that outlines the details for building three new stations.

**Skelton** has three appointment vacancies: the Sister Cities Board; the Alternative Correction Housing Board; and the Wichita Employees Retirement Board. He also encouraged everyone to take the Kansas State Parliamentary Procedure class on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church. He says it's valuable training for all neighborhood presidents.

**Sheffield** announced the South City Neighborhood Association basketball tournament is going to be on August 19<sup>th</sup> at Robinson Park. More details will be in the South City newsletter. People can register at Dawson United Methodist Church and there will be trophies and ribbons.

**Dillard** said Kay Johnson, Director of Environmental Services made a great presentation at the last SANA meeting on septic sewer systems and problems. She recommended the presentation highly for other neighborhood association meetings. She also reported another area with no sewer service was found under the overpass on South Broadway.

**Foster** representing Fabrique Neighborhood Association announced their next meeting is Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. David Lies, local trash service provider, will present politics of trash service. She also pitched the WIN newsletter, Kay's presentation and handed Vicki Mork a list of neighborhood problems.

**Skelton** says he's very supportive of the work Office of Central Inspection and Environmental Services provides in neighborhoods but he wants to improve department efficiency before new staff is added.

**Myers** representing Mead Neighborhood Associations reported they had a neighborhood clean-up that was very successful. He thanked the City of Wichita and says they have a Neighborhood Watch organized in their area. He thinks they have lower crime rates as a result.

**Cook** reported National Night Out for August 2<sup>nd</sup> it will be held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in Lincoln Park. It's a big event with children's activities. Free admission to the Fire Firefighter Museum and there will be free hot dogs as well. She also mentioned sidewalk issues, some folks in her neighborhood have had sidewalk sections replaced due to damage from tree roots in the parking, the City's trees. **Skelton** said the project is on hold. He's trying to implement a change if City trees are harming sidewalks the homeowners won't be assessed. He's also seeking CDBG funds for sidewalk.

**Kitchen** says National Night Out will be held on Munger Lane from 6:00 –8:00 p.m.. Last year was well attended with 400 people. Said neighborhood clean-up may happen in the fall. Thanked Jim for riding with Jerrell. Storm drains clogged on Ross Parkway. Cleaned up got median fixed.

**Foley** said H.A.N.D. association is 10 years old. There is a problem with shopping carts and if neighborhood association continues has talked with store Food 4 Less. Will relocate so Community Policing has agreed to work with residents with carts in yards. Neighborhood clean-up in mid October. **Hartig** nothing else to add but house across street from her has been cleaned up. **Skelton** rode with Keith Hall, Environmental Services Inspector to work on many code violations. Interested in helping area.

**Ward** says it's pretty quiet in his area.

**Gulick** stated Grandview Heights also having a National Night Out party on August 2<sup>nd</sup> at Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church at 3700 E Mt. Vernon.

**Kemp** thanked Skelton and commended his enthusiasm. K-15 has cancelled their meeting in July. They are planning to have a neighborhood picnic about a month after National Night Out. He reported a methamphetamine lab on his street. However the Police busted the operation and the site has been cleaned up. He will provide Skelton with names and addresses of residents who had recent sidewalk repairs due to City owned tree roots.

**Kemp** spoke highly of Danny Harshbarger who has been elected for District Advisory Board III youth representation.

**Foley (Kemp)** moved meeting be adjourned.

**Recommend Action: Address each item as appropriate.**

**8. Next Meeting**

**The next regularly scheduled meeting for District Advisory Board III will be August 3, 2005 at the WATER Center at 101 E Pawnee at 7:00 p.m.**

**No Action Required**

**Adjournment**

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Mork, Neighborhood Assistant

**Visitors**

Jody Bennett	1709 E. 48 <sup>th</sup> Street South 67216
Franklin & Veronica Bergquist	4255 S. Laura Cir. 67216
Billie Tucker	4140 Menlo 67218
Frank Pham	1413 S. Terrace Dr. 67218
Kathleen Cutsinger	4100 Wilma 67218
Jim & Glenda Yancy	847 S. Belmont 67218
Wesley Provines	1601 E. 45 <sup>th</sup> Street South 67216
Sherry German	4654 Lulu 67216
Elena Ingle	3608 Meadow Ln 67218
Leola James	3702 Meadow Ln 67218